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Project Name: WRHI Radio Tower

Project Number: FCC # not specified; FAA ASN # 2006-ASO-699-OE

Project Sponsor: Mr. Manning Kimmel, WRHI-WRHM Radio, P.O. Box 307, Rock Hill, SC 29731

Project Location: Near Intersection of US 521 and SC 75, Lancaster County. UTM 518300E, 3857286N, NAD27 datum

Field Personnel: Michael Trinkley

Date of Survey: August 14, 2006

Objective: To conduct a field survey of a proposed radio tower site (consisting of the tower facility and three guy-support structures) and its access road. Background work is limited to review of SCIAA archaeological site files; historical and architectural background is being conducted by Mr. Michael Scoggins.

Background: Examination of the SCIAA archaeological site files failed to identify any previously recorded archaeological sites with a 0.5 mile APE.

Survey Description: The proposed tower will be situated at the south edge of a ridge running south from East Rebound Road in Lancaster County, South Carolina. The tower site is anticipated to be about 30 by 20 feet in size, with the tower itself about 30-inches on a side and 500 feet in height. The tower will be supported by three guy wires running to concrete supports about 300 feet from the tower to the north, southeast, and southwest. Access to the tower will be provided from East Rebound Road along an existing York Power Cooperative transmission line easement currently containing a single wood pole transmission line.

This survey incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals along the center-line of the proposed access road, and single shovel tests at the proposed tower site and two of the three guy support locations (the third was situated in a badly eroded and gullied area). Shovel tests were approximately 1-foot square and were screened through ¼-inch mesh for recovery of any archaeological remains present.

The project area is today logged and lies fallow with thick scrub and herbaceous vegetation. Areas of standing timber reveal mixed pine and hardwood about 30 years old, suggesting multiple logging operations over the past 50 years. The Lancaster County soil survey reveals the tower, northern guy support, and access road to be situated on Cecil clay loams, 2-6% slopes, severely eroded. The southwestern guy support is shown to be in an area of Cecil fine

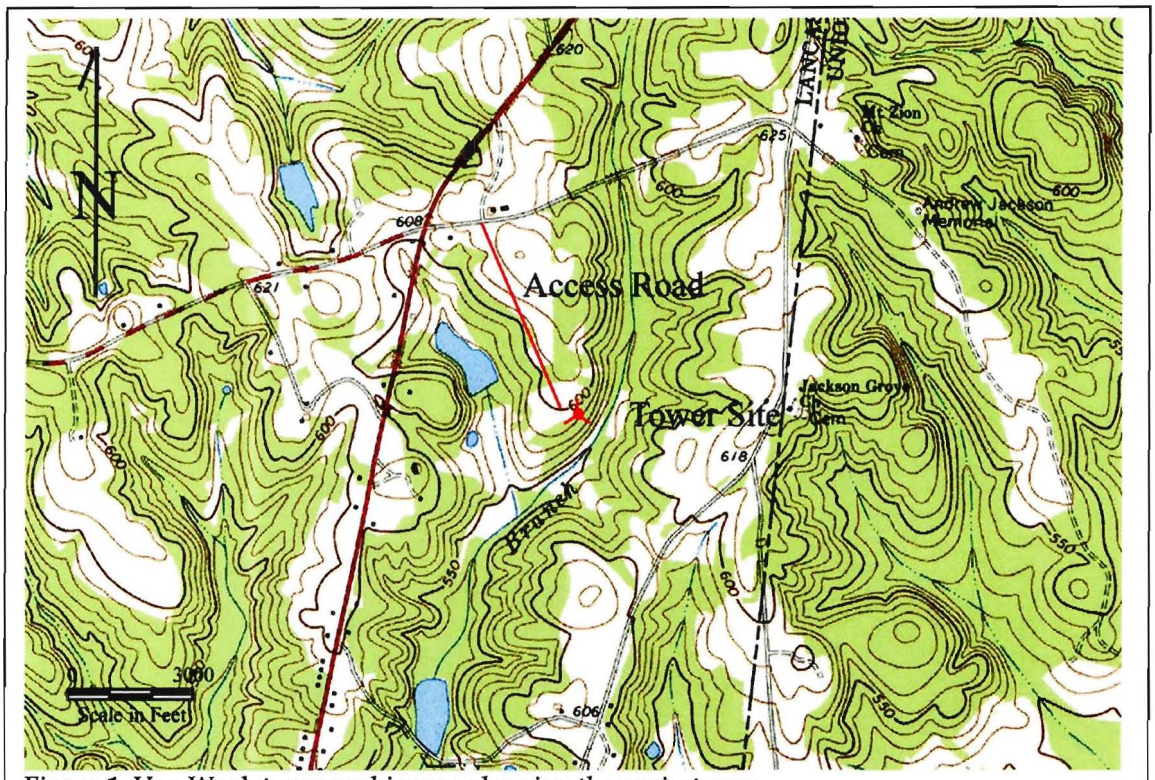

Figure 1. Van Wyck topographic map showing the project area.

sandy loam, 6-10% slopes, eroded. The southeastern guy support is shown in an area of Cecil clay loam, 6-10% slopes, severely eroded (Rogers 1973:Map 8). Cecil soils generally have an Ap horizon of light yellowish-brown (10YR6/4) fine sandy loam about 0.4 foot over a B horizon of yellowish-red (5YR5/6) sand loam that grades into a clay loam and then a red clay. Such profiles, however, are truncated in the eroded and severely eroded phases of this series. Rogers (1973:15) notes that even on the less steeply sloping soils, the Cecil clay loams have lost all of the original surface soil and 25% of their subsoils, exposing red clay surface soils. Gullies are found throughout and today much of the area has been converted to woodlots in an effort to control additional erosion. Trimble (1974) reports this area has lost at least 7-inches and often up to 9-inches of its soil. The South Carolina Erosion Survey reported that this area of Lancaster had severe sheet erosion with occasional gullies (Lowry 1934).

The tower, situated at the edge of the ridge in a relatively level location at an elevation of about 587 feet AMSL, exhibited the least damaged soils with a profile generally approximating the Cecil series. The southwestern guy support was not shovel tested since it was located within a gullied area. The southeastern guy support was found in an area of wet soils, exhibiting 0.1 foot of light yellowish-brown sandy loam over a red clay subsoil. The northern guy support revealed no surface soil, with firm red clay exposed at the surface. A series of 15 shovel tests were excavated along the centerline of the proposed access road. All of these revealed extensive erosion with, in virtually every area, red clay exposed at the surface or within 0.1 foot of the surface. Because of the transmission tower construction or maintenance, there was considerable erosion with gullies and much sheet erosion still occurring.

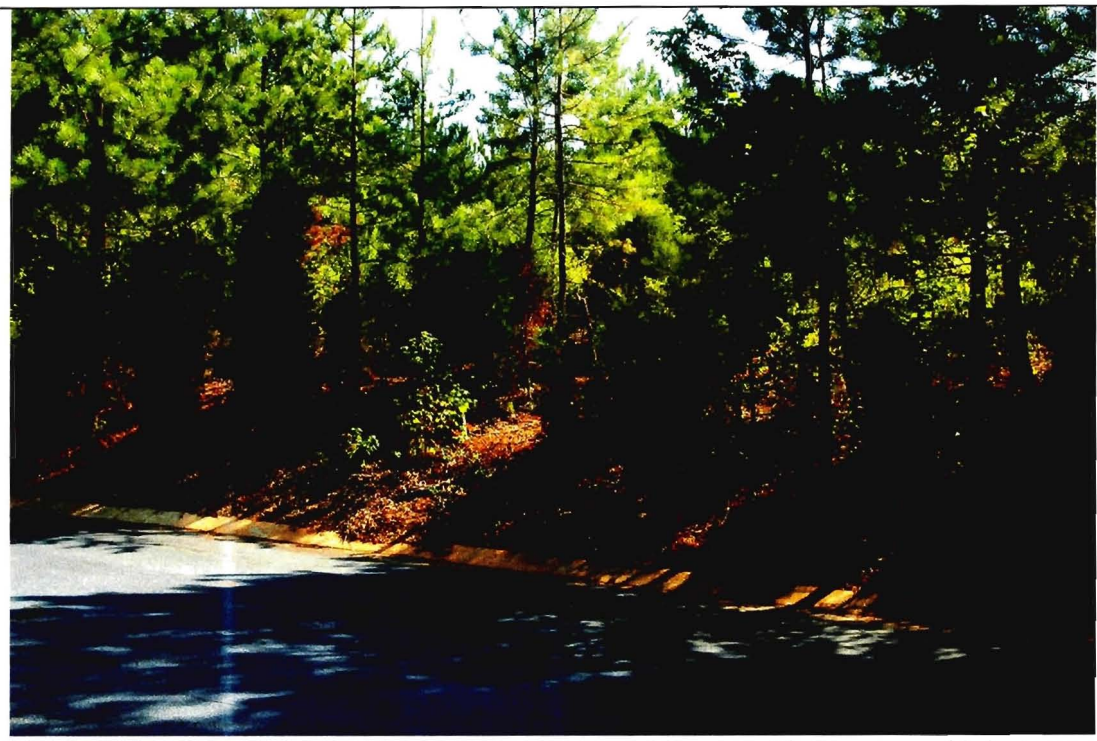

Figure 2. Vicinity of Isolated Find 1 on slope down to parking area. The access road is just beyond, up slope.

Figure 3. The access road will run in this power line easement. Note gullies and sheet erosion.

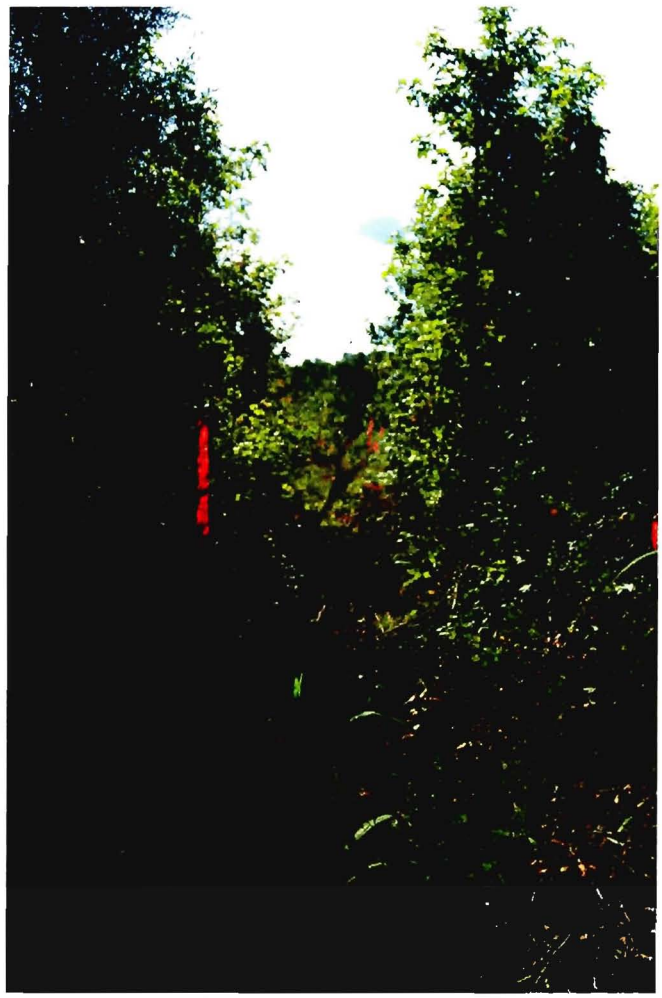

Figure 5. View of the tower area looking down the cut for the northern guy wire support. In the background, and down slope, is the main tower site.

Results: None of the shovel tests at the tower or on the access road identified any cultural remains.

A single isolated quartz biface fragment was recovered at UTM 518134E 3857596N, on a steep slope to the west of the access road in an area of heavy disturbance caused by the adjacent construction of a parking lot. A series of six shovel tests were excavated at 25-foot intervals to the north, south, and east of this find (no shovel tests could be excavated to the west because of the parking lot cut). No artifacts were identified in the tests or on the surrounding surface soils.

Summary: No remains were identified at the tower or in the area to be impacted by the minor grading and gravelling of the access road.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

Lowry, M.W.
1934 *Reconnaissance Erosion Survey of the State of South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Rogers, Virgil A.
1973 *Soil Survey of Lancaster County, South Carolina.* U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

Trimble, Stanley W.
1974 *Man-Induced Soil Erosion on the Southern Piedmont, 1700-1970.* Soil Conservation Society of America, Ankeny, Iowa.